

LaFayette Big Picture TGIF

2019

MARCH 22

We are **STILL PRESENT, POSITIVE** and **PASSIONATE!**



We are **PRESENT**. We are **POSITIVE**. We are **PASSIONATE**.

If you were not sure, IT IS MARCH. IT FEELS LIKE MARCH. IT SOUNDS LIKE MARCH. IT IS MARCH. If you have ever worked in a school, you know what I mean! Don't get my wrong, there were fantastic things that have taken place over the last few weeks. Our Senior Institute students were very engaged in creating their vision boards. Susan Johnson from SUNY

Morrisville and David let students to set intentions for themselves for the upcoming year and create vision boards. It was great to see the goals and intentions being set and made public. Walt led the 101s in making Lo Mein and by all accounts it was delicious. All students have written their argumentative essay and we now have a SMART goal for every student to improve thier writing skills. Our final learning goals are being set for the remainder of the year. We will focus on meeting these goals in the upcoming weeks as well as focus on how we can treat ourselves and each other well.



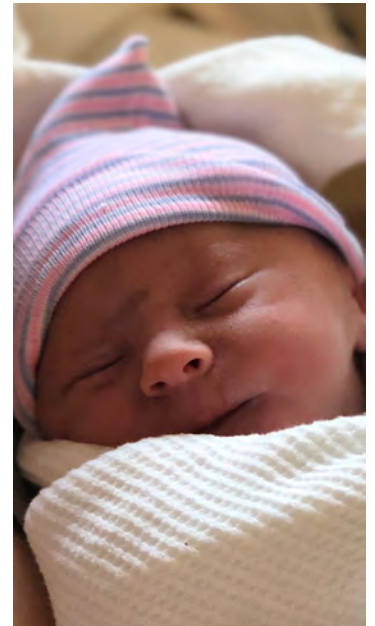
TGIF from Greg

This week the Shark Tank began the next phase of their 101 year with the beginning of the T3 learning process. We have witnessed some really remarkable exhibitions this year and I'm very excited to see what is next. The class has persevered all year averaging 90% for goals and attendance. We are into our third advisory reading book about the Navajo Code Talkers. From this all the students will choose an event, person, people, or action from the World War II era that they will research and present during their next exhibitions. This week we began making our blankets to give to a charity. Morgan led the process and the class. The blankets are turning out great. The class turned in the argumentative essays to Walt as well as the Post Exhibition Narratives to me. While we do have some work to do I am happy with the effort.



Welcome Everett!

Congratulations to David and Alyssa Stablein who welcomed Everett William on Wednesday morning. We can't wait to meet him in person!



TGIF from April

Congratulations David & Alyssa in welcoming baby Everett!

Last Friday Senior Institute students created Vision Boards with Susan from CSTEP in Morrisville. I was not so sure how my 401s would perceive the activity and was very pleased with the outcome! They put thought and effort into the project; I hope they continue to envision their success as we are in their “final swan song of high school”.

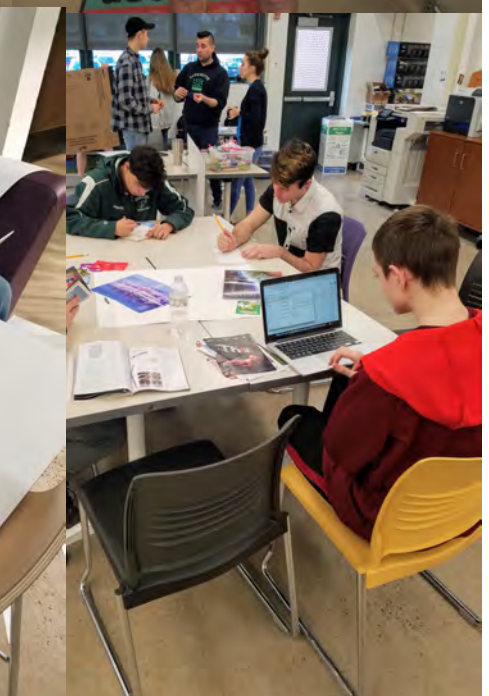
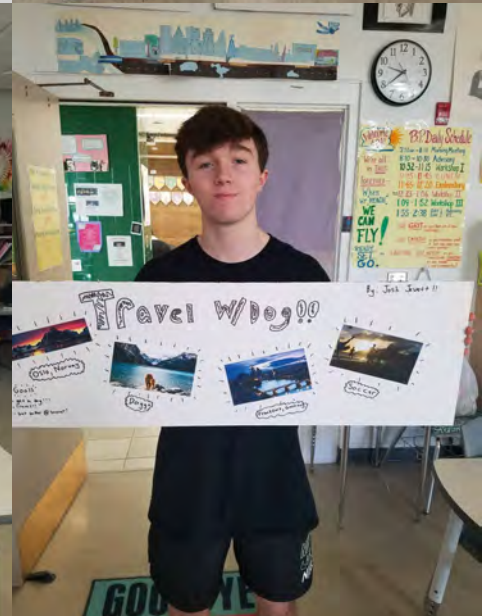
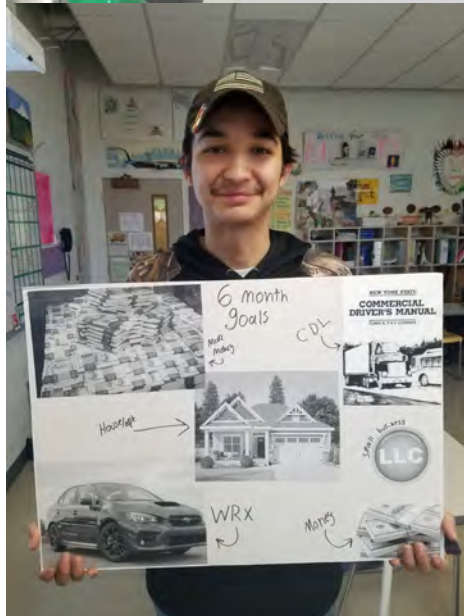
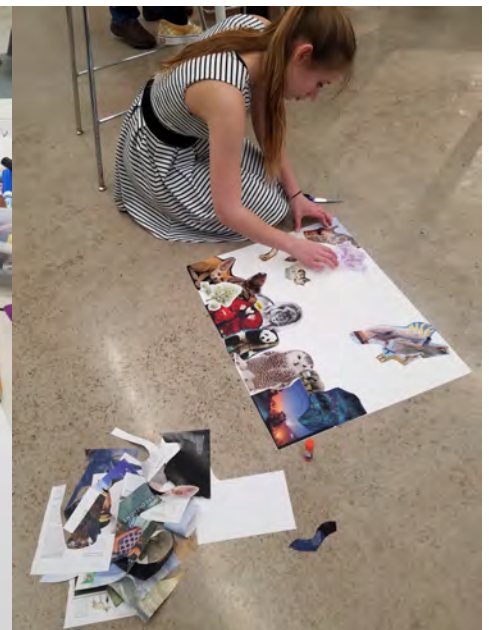
BIG news for Keegan H! He received a highly hoped for acceptance letter from his first choice: Syracuse University!! We are all so excited for, and proud of Keegan!

Dan C. continues to receive acceptance letters and offers of academic scholarships and grants. Congratulations Dan! Stop by and check out the 401 college acceptance wall to see the success of our 401s.

This week Layton visited two classrooms at ONS to further his STP. He described to 5th & 6th grade students what his RC car afterschool program will entail. It was exciting to see so many students enthusiastic about attending his group. He also brought a sample RC car for them to test drive; the smiles and laughter were contagious as the students test-drove the RC! Layton has received signed permission slips and will begin the program this coming Tuesday!

Also this week Wyatt and Skariwate had a meeting with Mr. Gizzi and Ms. Gonyea at ONS to further their STP. They then met with the PE teacher, as that is where they hope to recruit students to participate in their hockey clinic. They plan to teach hockey drills in PE classes that may entice students to join their upcoming clinic.

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We had a very productive meeting at Ichor with Cailin and her mentor, Meegan. I am super excited to see Cailin 'knock it out of the park' (as I challenged her to do) in her final exhibition.

Hunter has set a date at Loretto for his adult prom- super exciting things happening!

Truly exciting (and much anticipated- by me lol) this week, was the opportunity I had on Thursday evening, to take 20 students to a reenactment of a court case: Russo v Central School District. This was an actual case that took place in the early 1970's in NY State. Reenacted by real judges and attorneys. I took 20 Senior Institute Students that represented La Fayette excellently; they were engaged, attentive participants. It was a fantastic learning experience! The students took notes during the reenactment and then wrote a paper detailing what they learned on Friday. I was very pleased and hope to take students again in the future as they plan this to be a yearly event. We have been offered other opportunities through the court this year and I hope to encourage some of our younger students to join in with the senior institute and delve into interests in the civic process, or court operations. Although I was happy that there was plenty of learning taking place, I have to admit, when the security guard escorted us out to a 'special exit' and 20 students and 2 adults all cram into one elevator, I really enjoyed the laughs that took place! Then when the students began exiting from the elevator I couldn't help but laugh even harder! It seemed like the line of teens pouring out of that 'box' was never ending! We all enjoyed the silliness and laughter of the moment! 😊



TGIF from Lenny

This week the 301s were involved in a number of transitions. We completed and submitted our second round of argumentative essays, finished our PENS, and began our third trimester learning plans. We also attended the college fair at OCC and registered on College Board in preparation for future placement exams. It is critical that we are keeping long term goals in mind and taking the smaller steps each week to meet them.

There has also been a push towards completing Health and PIG requirements as 301s have been making significant progress in Gradpoint and writing their public policy papers. As part of the PIG requirements, April took a group, including seven 301s, to the courthouse downtown Thursday evening. They witnessed a reenactment of an historic case. I'm sure that April will elaborate in her section so I won't steal her thunder.

In LE we began the Relationships and Biodiversity lab by examining the physical characteristics of plants to find similarities. In ER we looked at how lumber and plywood are processed to set the stage for a woodworking project in the near future. We also continued to monitor and maintain our hydroponics project as more buds and fruit appear everyday.

As we begin the final trimester of the year, our learning plans will encompass clear objectives for internships,

project work and a realistic timeline to complete other requirements. On Wednesday we provided each 301 with a calendar for March, April, May and June with important events already included. Each 301 will use the calendar to map out the important target dates between now and the end of the year. My goal is for our last exhibitions to be opportunities to celebrate success and not be a time of stress and worry. Spring is here and with the onset of nice weather we can expect some very positive energy that we will harness for a successful finish to our 301 year. Have a wonderful week!



TGIF from Walt

Most of my time this week was spent grading argumentative essays for our school and developing writing goals for each of our students. I have completed grading all of the essays then created a list of common writing problems that I would like to improve. I've gathered a good amount of data and am hoping to develop some lessons and writing prompts that advisors can use to improve students' abilities for the next argumentative essay.

This week's highlights:

Jamus is interested in prop making, and this week I worked with him on making a batarang out of aluminum. I have worked with aluminum in the past, but this was a tricky project because of many curves and sharp lines. We experimented with a combination of cutting, filing and sanding techniques and managed to get a rough draft made up. Next week, we are hoping to clean it up and polish it.

I helped Evan work on a diorama this week for an advisory project. He is interested in D-day, and wanted to make a diorama of Normandy beach. I have some model making experience, so I showed him some basic diorama making techniques and



helped him plan things out. We completed the foundation this week, and next week, we are hoping to paint everything and add the final details.

Jamus and RJ are interested in learning basic outdoor survival skills as part of their LTI projects, so I worked with them to make a primitive structure outdoors. They did some research of different types of structures, lashing techniques and types of materials to use, and then set off to make a prototype. It took most of the day, but they ended up making a structure that was very solid and dry. This was a fun project outdoor project, and they

both learned much from this experience.



TGIF from Jessica

The 201s are jumping into T3 ready to face the challenges they have ahead of them. Right now they are in the thick of assessments. They are being assessed on T2 work and learning what assignments they have missing or ones that need developing/correcting. They have written their argumentative essays. They have taken their last of three workkeys assessment on applied mathematics. The workkeys assess students' workplace and career readiness. Next week we will be taking STAR Math and Reading benchmarks. Assessments are a great tool for us to stop and reflect on what we've learned; to see what we have understood well and to see what skills we need to work on. What we want to see on the assessment is growth and improvement.

After reflecting on our abilities and skills, we're ready to jump into our work with a focus and a direction for our efforts. By the end of this week the 201's should have their learning plan projects filled out. We have already started our Advisory/IR Book, *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. The students and I are excited to read this book about Santiago's journey to discovering treasure.

Last week Randy hosted a Smash Brothers Tournament during exploratory. He did a great job leading the tournament and he generated a good amount of student interest. Garrett won the tournament after a tough battle with Sean.

Brandon has begun a new internship with Compassionate Care Veterinary Hospital. He is learning how to discharge patients after operations and he is going through Compassionate Care's job training for new hires. Brandon also had the pleasure of going on a shadow day at Quarryside Animal Hospital. He spent the morning with Dr. Rothman experiencing surgeries and x-rays.

Tierra has went on two shadow days at the LaFayette Library. She has had the pleasure of meeting the staff and learning from them how to perform the duties of a librarian.

I went on a site visit to see Kyle T at Dominick's Restaurant. Kyle has been learning from Bernie how to saute. Jason and Bernie always say it is a pleasure to have Kyle and that he is a hard worker.

I also visited Elias at Blue Prints Dog Studio. He is working with Hannah and is learning how to train puppies. Hannah said Elias is very good with the dogs and he has a way of caring for them.

Darryl has been working to advance his photography skills. Darryl has been working with Carol on building a camera and teaching him about lenses.

Randy has been promoting his internship at the SECNY Branch by encouraging and helping his peers open up accounts. Many of the students are excited to have an opportunity to manage their own money and begin to use debt cards.

I hope to do a few more site visits this week. I always enjoy seeing my students at their internships because they always have a beaming smile on their face.

All of the algebra students have been working rigorously. Algebra Foundation students have learned how to write and interpret the function of a line. This week they are learning how to calculate the slope. Algebra Part 1 students are applying all of their knowledge from the year into systems of equations problems that blend all of the concepts together. Algebra Part 2 students are learning about growth and decay functions. They are learning how to adjust rates to equate the value of growth or decay. The regents will be around the corner and its best to start preparing now.

LAFAYETTE BIG PICTURE STAFF

401s



Need to Contact Us?

Susan Osborn:
sosborn@lafayetteschools.org

Kym Weil:
kweil@lafayetteschools.org

Lenny Oppedisano:
loppedisano@lafayetteschools.org

Walt Nowey:
wnowey@lafayetteschools.org

April Palmer:
apalmer@lafayetteschools.org

David Stablein:
dstablein@lafayetteschools.org

Jessica Giordano:
jgiordano@lafayetteschools.org

Greg Scott:
gscott@lafayetteschools.org

Hollis Rotella:
hrotella@lafayetteschools.org

Christine Kane:
ckane@lafayetteschools.org

Erin Virnoche:
evirnoche@lafayetteschools.org

Joy Gregg:
jgregg@lafayetteschools.org

Rosalie Whipple:
rwhipple@lafayetteschools.org

Nikki Cawley
ncawley@lafayetteschools.org

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT US!

Susan Osborn

201s



301s



101s



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LaFayette Big Picture Learning

3122 Route 11 North

LaFayette, New York 13084

